CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1	1.	A method for analyzing a ne	twork utilizing a host co	ontroller, comprising:
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- 2 (a) accumulating network traffic information;
- 3 (b) tracking a predetermined interval setting;
- 4 (c) polling for the receipt of a demand over a network; and
- 5 (d) in response to the demand or the cessation of the predetermined interval setting,
- 6 transmitting the network traffic information to a zone controller.
- 1 2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the network traffic information is
- 2 received from a plurality of agents distributed over the network.
- 1 3. The method as recited in claim 1, and further comprising receiving the interval setting from the zone controller.
- 1 4. The method as recited in claim 3, and further comprising controlling the agents to accumulate network traffic information based on the interval setting.
- 1 5. The method as recited in claim 1, and further comprising generating a map of the network.
- 1 6. The method as recited in claim 1, and further comprising generating a map of the network based on the network traffic information.

- 1 7. The method as recited in claim 5, and further comprising transmitting the map to the zone controller.
- 1 8. The method as recited in claim 1, and further comprising synchronizing a first clock of the host controller and a second clock of the zone controller.
- 9. A computer program product for analyzing a network utilizing a host controller,
 comprising:
- 3 (a) computer code for accumulating network traffic information;
- 4 (b) computer code for tracking a predetermined interval setting;
- 5 (c) computer code for polling for the receipt of a demand over a network; and
- 6 (d) computer code for transmitting the network traffic information to a zone
- 7 controller, in response to the demand or the cessation of the predetermined
- 8 interval setting.
- 1 10. The computer program product as recited in claim 9, wherein the network traffic 2 information is received from a plurality of agents distributed over the network.
- 1 11. The computer program product as recited in claim 9, and further comprising computer code for receiving the interval setting from the zone controller.
- 1 12. The computer program product as recited in claim 11, and further comprising
- 2 computer code for controlling the agents to accumulate network traffic
- 3 information based on the interval setting.
- 1 13. The computer program product as recited in claim 9, and further comprising computer code for generating a map of the network.

- 1 14. The computer program product as recited in claim 9, and further comprising computer code for generating a map of the network based on the network traffic information.
- 1 15. The computer program product as recited in claim 14, and further comprising computer code for transmitting the map to the zone controller.
- 1 16. The computer program product as recited in claim 9, and further comprising computer code for synchronizing a first clock of the host controller and a second clock of the zone controller.
- 1 17. A system for analyzing a network utilizing a host controller, comprising:
- 2 (a) logic for accumulating network traffic information;
- 3 (b) logic for tracking a predetermined interval setting;
- 4 (c) logic for polling for the receipt of a demand over a network; and
- logic for transmitting the network traffic information to a zone controller, in response to the demand or the cessation of the predetermined interval setting.
- 1 18. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein the network traffic information is received from a plurality of agents distributed over the network.
- 1 19. The system as recited in claim 17, and further comprising logic for receiving the interval setting from the zone controller.
- 1 20. The system as recited in claim 19, and further comprising logic for controlling 2 the agents to accumulate network traffic information based on the interval 3 setting.

- 1 21. The system as recited in claim 17, and further comprising logic for generating a map of the network.
- 1 22. The system as recited in claim 17, and further comprising logic for generating a map of the network based on the network traffic information.
- 1 23. The system as recited in claim 22, and further comprising logic for transmitting 2 the map to the zone controller.
- 1 24. The system as recited in claim 17, and further comprising logic for
- 2 synchronizing a first clock of the host controller and a second clock of the zone
- 3 controller.
- 1 25. A method for analyzing a network utilizing a host controller, comprising:
- 2 (a) accumulating network traffic information;
- 3 (b) transmitting the network traffic information to a zone controller;
- 4 (c) generating a map of the network based on the network traffic information; and
- 5 (d) transmitting the map to the zone controller.
- 1 26. A method for analyzing a network utilizing a host controller, comprising:
- 2 (a) receiving an interval setting from a zone controller;
- 3 (b) accumulating network traffic information from a plurality of agents distributed
- 4 over a network based on the zone controller;
- 5 (c) tracking a predetermined interval setting;
- 6 (d) polling for the receipt of a demand over the network;
- 7 (e) in response to the demand or the cessation of the predetermined interval setting,
- 8 transmitting the network traffic information to the zone controller;
- 9 (f) generating a map of the network based on the network traffic information;

- 10 (g) transmitting the map to the zone controller; and
- 11 (h) synchronizing a clock between the host controller and the zone controller.